

Submission / Objection to Proposed Lemanaghan Wind Farm

Case Reference: PAX19.324161

To: An Coimisiún Pleanála

We wish to make a formal submission and objection in relation to the proposed Strategic Infrastructure Development application for the construction of 15 wind turbines, a permanent 220kV on-site substation, and associated infrastructure at Lemanaghan and surrounding townlands, County Offaly.

We are nearby residents living at Rosfaraghan, Ferbane, Co Offaly - Eircode R42 HW27, in very close proximity to the proposed development site. As directly affected residents, we have serious concerns regarding the likely impacts this proposed development would have on our family, home, environment, and quality of life.

While we recognise the importance of renewable energy and Ireland's climate obligations, we believe this development is excessive in scale and inappropriate for this location.

1. Unacceptable Impact on Residential Amenity

The proposed turbines would have an overall blade tip height of up to 220 metres, making them among the tallest onshore wind turbines proposed in Ireland.

Given my close proximity to the site, we are deeply concerned about:

- continuous turbine noise,
- low-frequency sound and vibration,
- shadow flicker,
- visual domination of the landscape,
- night-time aviation lighting,
- and the cumulative psychological and environmental effect of living beside an industrial-scale energy development.

Although the developer references a setback distance of approximately 880 metres from residences, this does not remove the significant impact such exceptionally large turbines would have on nearby homes and residents.

The proposed development would fundamentally alter the character and enjoyment of my home and surrounding environment.

2. Visual and Landscape Impact

The scale and height of the turbines would result in a major industrial intrusion into an otherwise rural and historically significant landscape.

The visual impact would be constant and unavoidable from nearby homes and roads. The introduction of:

- 15 turbines,
- associated lighting,
- access roads,
- substations,
- and extensive infrastructure,

would irreversibly alter the visual character of the area.

We believe insufficient consideration has been given to the cumulative visual impact on local residents living in close proximity to the development.

3. Peatland and Environmental Concerns

The proposed development is located within sensitive peatland and bogland environments. The application documentation includes peat management, hydrology and environmental assessments, which itself demonstrates the sensitivity of the site.

We are concerned about:

- disturbance of peat soils that act as carbon sinks
- potential impacts on drainage and local hydrology,
- increased flood risk,
- release of stored carbon,
- and long-term ecosystem and environmental degradation.

Given the ecological importance of this raised bog, a precautionary approach should apply.

4. Heritage and Cultural Landscape

The Lemanaghan area possesses important archaeological, ecclesiastical and cultural heritage associated with the historic monastic landscape of St. Manchan and the wider bog landscape.

The industrialisation of this landscape through turbines of such scale would seriously damage the setting, character and cultural value of the area.

5. Construction and Traffic Concerns

The construction phase would involve prolonged heavy construction activity, abnormal-load deliveries, road widening and substantial HGV traffic.

As nearby residents, we are concerned regarding:

- road safety,
- damage to local roads,
- noise and dust,
- disruption to daily life,
- and long-term disturbance during the construction period.

6. Inadequate Protection for Nearby Residents

We do not believe adequate weight has been given to the rights and wellbeing of residents living closest to the proposed development.

The proposal prioritises industrial-scale infrastructure over the protection of established rural communities and residential amenity.

Recent public discussion and legal cases relating to turbine noise and nuisance demonstrate that the impacts on nearby residents can be significant and long-lasting where developments are located too close to homes.

Conclusion

For the reasons outlined above, I respectfully request that An Coimisiún Pleanála refuse permission for the proposed Lemanaghan Wind Farm development under Case Reference PAX19.324161.

We believe the proposed development would:

- materially injure residential amenity,
- seriously impact the visual character of the area,
- negatively affect nearby residents,
- create unacceptable environmental and landscape impacts,
- and fail to constitute proper planning and sustainable development in this location.

Yours faithfully,

Mairead and Noel Flynn

Rosfaraghan

Ferbane

Co Offaly

R42HW27

25/05/2026